

**Crab Task Force Meeting  
Tuesday, November 17, 2015  
2021 Lakeshore Dr., STE 210  
New Orleans, LA 70122**

Meeting called to order at: 1:15pm

Allison West called roll:

**Voting Member Present:**

Eric Blanchard  
LaQuita Meek  
Trudy Luke  
Pete Gerica  
Rodney Parfait  
Kim Alfonso  
Warren Delacroix

**Voting Members Absent:**

Chalin Delaune  
James Bergeron  
Eddie Chagnard  
Paul Alfonso

**Non-voting Members Present:**

Jack Isaacs  
Mark Schexnayder  
Chad Hebert  
Julie Falgout in for Julie Anderson

**Non-voting Members Absent:**

Melissa Daigle  
Alan Matherne

Kim Alfonso made a motion to approve minutes from October 6 meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by  
Rodney Parfait, motion adopted

Kim Alfonso made a motion to approve CTF financial report, 2<sup>nd</sup> Eric  
Blanchard

Jeff Marx provided an update on the suspension of the Fisheries Forward Program,  
which took effect on November 6, 2015

Darren Bourgeois addressed the Task Force with the current Fisheries Forward numbers and program updates:

As of November 4, 2015, there were a total of 148 people approved and in the program, with 101 conditionally approved.

Pete Gerica suggested adding 'Suspending Crab Shippers License' agenda item for the next CTF meeting

Jack Isaacs presented the TF with the preliminary results of the Commercial Crab Harvesters Survey: The purpose of this survey was to try and determine how many crab traps commercial fishermen are using at a given time

Bren Haase spoke about the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority's (CPRA) recommendations on Mississippi River sediment diversions

Jody Rouse addressed the Task Force on crabmeat importation

Drue Winters stated that walking the hill or communicating with the Louisiana Congressional Delegation may be an option to address the Fair Trade Agreement that is in place for the crabbing industry and offered to help facilitate a letter to Congress

Mark Schexnayder added that the Louisiana Wild Seafood Certification Program may be another option to look into in dealing with importation problems

Damon Morris presented on the Blue Crab Sustainability Certification Program

Eric Blanchard made a motion to discuss bailing out of MSC certification, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kim Alfonso. Motion withdrawn after further discussion

Pete Gerica stated it may be beneficial to do a cost share with LDWF to finish the program out through the year and by that time Audubon will have their assessments ready and the TF can make a decision at that time

Eric Blanchard made a motion to split costs for final MSC audit with LDWF, 2<sup>nd</sup> Trudy Luke. Motion adopted.

Darren Bourgeois addressed the CTF on upcoming crab workshops

Trudy Luke stated that the Louisiana Commercial Fishing and Seafood Industry Summit would like to ask the TF for \$3,000 to defray costs associated with lunch/refreshments

Trudy Luke made a motion for the Task Force to provide \$3,000 to help fund the Louisiana Commercial Fishing and Seafood Industry Summit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kim Alfonso.  
Motion adopted

Next meeting set for January 12, 2016 for 1pm in New Orleans

Motion to adjourn by Eric Blanchard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kim Alfonso

Meeting adjourned at 3:17pm